



Month: May Week: 3 Subject: Approaches to Play & Learning

Day 1	Topic(s) Theme: Nature's Backyard Number: 15 Letter: Nn Color: Brown Shape: Circle	Foundation(s) APL1.1 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction APL1.2 Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner
Indicators	Younger Preschool	Older Preschool
	Children may choose nature items to collect independently.	Children may describe reasons for selecting specific items.
Activity: Nature Treasure Hunt Children will explore an outdoor area (or indoor sensory bin if needed) to find special "nature treasures" like leaves, small sticks, pebbles, or flowers. Provide a simple visual checklist or treasure map showing items to find. Children will make their own choices about what to collect, encouraging exploration and curiosity. After the hunt, they can share their favorite find with the group.		
Resources/Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual treasure hunt cards • Small bags or baskets for collecting 	Key Vocabulary: find, nature, treasure	Support:



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Day 2	Topic(s) Theme: Nature's Backyard Number: 15 Letter: Nn Color: Brown Shape: Circle	Foundation(s) APL2.1 Demonstrate development of flexible thinking during play APL3.1 Demonstrate development of sustained attention and persistence
Indicators	Younger Preschool	Older Preschool
	Children may match simple bug and flower pairs with help.	Children may remember and find matches with increasing independence.
Activity: Bug and Flower Matching Memory Game Set up a matching game with bug and flower picture cards laid face down. Children will take turns flipping over two cards at a time, trying to find matching pairs. They will practice persistence by continuing to play even if they do not find a match right away. This game builds memory, flexible thinking, and social turn-taking skills.		
Resources/Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bug and flower memory cards 	Key Vocabulary: match, memory, turn	Support:

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Day 3	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)
	Theme: Nature's Backyard Number: 15 Letter: Nn Color: Brown Shape: Circle	APL1.2 Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner APL4.1 Demonstrate development of social interactions during play
Indicators	Younger Preschool	Older Preschool
	Children may explore natural textures using their hands and simple descriptive words.	Children may compare and describe multiple textures with their peers.
Activity: Nature Texture Table Sensory Exploration Set up a sensory table with a variety of natural materials like pinecones, smooth rocks, soft moss, bark, and leaves. Encourage children to feel, sort, and describe the different textures they experience. Guide them to use words like "rough," "bumpy," "soft," or "smooth," and encourage conversations about their discoveries with friends.		
Resources/Materials	Key Vocabulary:	Support:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensory table or trays Natural texture items 	soft, rough, smooth	

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Day 4	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)
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Preschool Curriculum

	Theme: Nature's Backyard Number: 15 Letter: Nn Color: Brown Shape: Circle	APL2.1 Demonstrate development of flexible thinking during play
Indicators	Younger Preschool	Older Preschool
	Children may stay engaged with the memory game for short periods.	Children may strategize and remember card locations to find matches.
Activity: Bug and Flower Memory Game (<i>Extension Play</i>) Reintroduce the Bug and Flower Memory Game, but this time in small groups. Encourage children to work together, helping each other find matching pairs. Students will need to use flexible thinking to remember where cards are located, stay attentive during others' turns, and persist even if they make mistakes.		
Resources/Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bug and flower memory cards 	Key Vocabulary: game, match, memory	Support:

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Day 5	Topic(s)	Foundation(s)
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Preschool Curriculum

	Theme: Nature's Backyard Number: 15 Letter: Nn Color: Brown Shape: Circle	APL1.1 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction APL4.1 Demonstrate development of social interactions during play
Indicators	Younger Preschool	Older Preschool
	Children may work with peers to find simple items during the scavenger hunt.	Children may take leadership roles, helping guide their team.
<p>Activity: Nature Scavenger Hunt in Teams</p> <p>Children will be divided into small teams and given a scavenger hunt checklist. Working together, they will search the playground or classroom for nature items like brown leaves, small rocks, or oval shapes. They will practice teamwork by taking turns finding items and making group decisions. Afterward, each team will share their collection with the class.</p>		
Resources/Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature scavenger hunt checklists Baskets or bags for collecting 	Key Vocabulary: team, hunt, find	Support: